

The Scroll

OF THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

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SISTERHOOD SPONSORS DUTCH SUPPER

Temple to Benefit From Annual Affair; Good Food and Informal Social Program Will Be Features

The annual Dutch Supper, sponsored by the Sisterhood, and the proceeds of which will be donated to the general fund of the Synagogue, is to take place on Sunday evening, February 25th at 6 P.M., as the first major function of the organization so far this year. All members of the congregation and their friends are especially invited to attend.

According to Mrs. Freda Sack, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, preparations have been completed to ensure a very pleasant informal affair. In addition to the chance of winning one of the many door prizes which will be

distributed, those present will have ample opportunity to display their prowess at the Bridge or Mah Jong table.

Serving on the committee with Mrs. Sack as co-chairmen are Mrs. Rita Millheiser, Mrs. Emma Hoexter, Mrs. Carolyn Mannheimer and Mrs. Josephine Gerbrowin.

Installation Impressive

At the annual meeting of the Sisterhood which took place on January 23rd, those present witnessed the colorful ceremony attending the installation of new officers and members of the Executive Board. The retiring President, Mrs. Irma Heller, who was succeeded by Mrs. Ruth Abrams, presented a stimulating report on the many activities which have occupied the members over the past year.

RABBI STEINBERG WILL PRESENT SERMON CYCLE

Famous Modern Apostates to Be Central Theme of Series

Following a precedent of past seasons, Rabbi Milton Steinberg will launch a new cycle of sermons, this year revolving around the central theme of "Five Modern Apostates and What They Rebelled Against."

The first of the series of four lectures will take place on Friday evening, February 16th when the life and career of Uriel d'Acosta will be described and evaluated. On successive Friday evenings thereafter through March 16th, Rabbi Steinberg will present similar analyses of Spinoza, Heine and Solomon Maimon.

Criticisms of Judaism Analyzed

To many who have wondered wherein the underlying motives in the lives and thought of these four great personages lay, and what caused them to rebel so outspokenly against Judaism and Jewish life, these sermons should provide understanding. In them, our Rabbi will clarify and examine the validity of the criticisms hurled against Judaism by these historic figures. In addition, the series promises to be rich in descriptions of dramatic lives and their equally absorbing backgrounds.

TEMPLE TID-BITS

By FAY P. WIENER

" . . . The exodus continues: the *Harry F. Greenbergs* seem to thrive on travelling. Commuting as they do from their home in Oradell, N. J. to the synagogue, they have decided to take in a slightly larger area and visit Virginia Beach and points south. The *Barney Balabans*, Dr. and Mrs. *Charles Weiss* and the *Milton Weills* have also vacated the city . . . We hail the return of the *Jack Lubins*, the *William Hellers* and the *Edward Peipers* who left Florida in time to miss the cold wave . . . And speaking of nasty weather invading yon sunny climes, we hope that Mrs. *Henry Wolfson's* orange groves haven't been affected by the frost. Mrs. Wolfson migrates to Orlando with the birds in September personally to manage her citrus crop;

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THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

50 EAST 87th STREET

SACRAMENTO 2-8765

OFFICERS

Rabbi.....	Milton Steinberg
Assistant Rabbi.....	Erwin Zimet
Cantor.....	David J. Putterman
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Dr. Barnard Steintal

Eugene M. Lang

Sidney W. Gottlieb

Associate

Gertrude Robinson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Emigre Group

Bar-M '36-'37 Club Meeting

Thursday evening, February 8th

Friday Evening Service

February 9th, 8:30 P.M.

COTERIE SABBATH

Oneg Shabbat and Reception in Vestry

Saturday Morning Service

February 10th, 9:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation, 10:30 A.M.

Sunday School Sessions

February 11th, 9:45 A.M.

Coterie III Meeting, 2:30 P.M.

Young Folks League Social, 8:30 P.M.

Sunday, February 11th

Adult Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday evening, February 13th, 8:45 P.M.

Friday Evening Service

February 16th, 8:30 P.M.

Rabbi Steinberg, begins sermon series

Oneg Shabbat in Vestry

Saturday Morning Service

February 17th, 9:30 A.M.

Junior Congregation, 10:30 A.M.

Sunday School Sessions

February 18th, 9:45 P.M.

SABBATH BULLETIN ENCLOSED

Scroll readers are urged to give special attention to the Sabbath bulletin enclosed with this issue. It is the third of the Home Observance leaflets prepared by the Parents Group of the Temple and distributed by the School Board. Additional copies may be obtained by phoning Miss Robinson at Sacramento 2-8765.

"AS A DRIVEN LEAF"

By RABBI MILTON STEINBERG

The search for confirmation of belief in God and a scientific basis for religious thought and practice, undertaken by a man during the second century of this era is the theme of the passionately moving story of Rabbi Milton Steinberg's historical novel, "As A Driven Leaf."

Elisha ben Abuya, a rabbi and member of the Sanhedrin just before its dissolution by the Roman conqueror Hadrian, is the central figure of this drama. His birth and some events of his life are recorded in the Talmud, and from this meager information a story has been woven.

"As A Driven Leaf" carries you back to 60 C.E., to the B'ris Milah of Elisha, son of Abuya. His fellow Jews frown upon Abuya because of his adoption of Greek customs, but despite their condemnation Elisha is brought up in the atmosphere of the Greeks until his father's death. Elisha's uncle then takes him to Joshua, a member of the Sanhedrin, and after much study, Elisha, too, becomes a member. He faithfully serves as teacher and judge until he begins to question his chosen way of life and religion. As a result of this questing he drifts further and further away from his colleagues of the Sanhedrin, until they have no choice but to excommunicate him. Elisha goes to the city of Antioch to search for a rational faith. He studies the Greek mathematicians and philosophers as intensely as he had once studied the Scripture and Tradition.

About this time the Jews of Palestine were once more growing restive under Roman rule and rebelled. The Roman governor, Rufus, enlisted the aid of Elisha to strike at the very roots of Jewish culture. Thinking that the culture of the Jews was doomed to be absorbed by that of the Romans, Elisha betrays his people. The Sanhedrin is abolished and his colleagues martyred. A humbled man, Elisha returns to his unfinished search for a rational faith, but Euclid fails him, too—thus his years of questing are all in vain.

The descriptions and characterizations throughout this story are handled in a masterly manner; it reads smoothly and moves quickly from scene to scene. Many of the problems discussed are as alive today as they were in Elisha's time, and should find a deeply sympathetic audience.

Bobbs Merrill . . . \$2.50

S. W. G.

Editor's Note: For those who desire to obtain a copy of Rabbi Steinberg's book but find it inconvenient to do so, an autographed copy of the same may be purchased through the Scroll upon receipt of an order accompanied by \$2.50, plus tax.

JEFFREY OPENS SPRING ADULT RELIGION COURSE

Columbia Professor Presents Talk on Mohammedanism

The adult course of the spring semester got off to an auspicious start last Monday evening, with Dr. Arthur Jeffrey of Columbia University opening the Comparative Religion series with a lecture on "Mohammedanism." Dr. Jeffrey's discussion proved unusually stimulating to those present and provoked an animated period of questioning.

Well-Known Speakers Scheduled

Other lecturers to follow, who have been chosen not only on the basis of outstanding scholarship but also because of their ability to impart their knowledge in an interesting and popular way, include Father George Barry Ford, Rector of Corpus Christi Church, who will discuss "The Modern Catholic Church," Dr. Paul Tillich, professor at Union Theological Seminary, who will speak on the "Spirit of Protestantism," and Dr. Herbert S. Schneider, professor at Columbia University, who will survey "Religious Expression in America."

In addition, Rabbi Steinberg will offer a series of four lectures. Islam and Judaism, the early Christian Church, the medieval church in relation to Judaism, and Judaism and modern Christianity will provide the topics for his discussions.

Registration Still Open

Other courses to be offered with Comparative Religion will be a seminar on Rabbinic literature conducted by Rabbi Steinberg, studying and singing Jewish music under the leadership of Cantor Puterman, two Hebrew classes instructed by Rabbi Zimet, and a discussion circle on current events and their relation to Judaism. The latter course will be an innovation in that individual members of the group will have an opportunity to lead the discussion at different meetings.

Those who have not as yet registered for the spring semester will be glad to know that there is still not only opportunity but also very good reason for doing so.

PARENT-TEACHERS GROUP HOLDS INITIAL SESSION

Permanent Officers Chosen; I. B. Oseas Chairman

The inaugural meeting of the newly-formed Parents'-Teachers' Association was held on Monday evening, January 29th in the vestry rooms. Mr. I. B. Oseas presided over the meeting which was attended by some eighty parents of children attending the religious school.

Following talks by Benjamin Sack, Chairman of the School Board, Samuel Grand, Principal of the religious school, Rabbi Steinberg and Mrs. Paul W. Aschner, the meeting constituted itself a permanent organization. Mr. Oseas was made permanent Chairman.

TEMPLE TID-BITS (continued)

... The *Joseph W. Gerrish's* have checked in from Florida and Havana and the "missus" is again available for Mah Jong . . . Mix two parts terra cotta, one part indigo blue and a dash of chrome yellow — and you have it — Mrs. Paul Smolian's gorgeous *suntan* . . . Dr. Jacob Buckstein joins the Literary Circle. This month will bring publication of his book, "Clinical Roentgenology of the Alimentary Tract" . . . We wonder how Mrs. Olga Bibor Stern manages to crowd so much activity into her days. A brilliant pianist, Mrs. Stern, when not in the throes of a radio rehearsal or recital, or playing at a social function, gives unstintingly of her time to act as accompanist for the Choral Group . . . What member of the congregation is the proud possessor of a facsimile of a Heine poem graciously given by Eric Benjamin, a member of our Adult Study Group and the largest collector of Heine manuscripts? Interested readers are invited to this scribe's apartment to see the "etching" . . . If the unusual gleam in Sara Botein's eye these days sets you wondering, we'll let you in on a little secret — there's a movement aFOOT — more anon . . . It seems that the wine usually served at the Friday night Reception was just a wee bit too strong for Miss "X", who came as guest of Mrs. Barnard Steinthal. Miss "X" bid her good nights and exited gracefully morally supported by the wine but physically assisted by Drs. Shapiro and Steinthal . . . Aside to Mrs. Louis Cohen: where DID you get that pretty hat you wore to services Friday night . . . Birthday congratulations to Mrs. Stella Penn, Adolph Luebeck, Mrs. Louis B. Miller, and Julius Guggenheimer; a majority of congrats to Albert Heller who just hit his twenty-first . . . The congregation extends condolences to Mrs. Isidor Hahn on the passing of her mother . . . Best wishes for the speedy recovery to David Furchheimer, Nathan Fuld, Charles Stern and Mrs. Ricka Stern.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL MARK BROTHERHOOD DAY

To Meet With Presbyterian Children on February 25th

Without allowing much of a breathing spell to follow the close of the first semester, the Sunday School has already embarked upon a busy spring program. The first event consisted of a series of trips to the Jewish Theological Seminary Museum where a Rashi exhibit was observed, to a Palestinian importing firm and to the lower east side where early synagogues were examined.

In accordance with President Roosevelt's Brotherhood Week proclamation, the Sunday School will observe Brotherhood Day on February 25th when a joint assembly of the children of the Brick Presbyterian Church will be held.

Students Awarded Prizes

The model service conducted by the Junior Congregation on January 21st proved very successful, with Sanford Hahn as Rabbi and Norman Katz as Cantor performing very commendably. The following week occasioned the Tu B'Shvat celebration. The Palestinian film, "Sanctuary," was shown, followed by dances and refreshments.

Sunday School students who received prizes for outstanding Jewish National Fund collections are:

Joan Arnstein	Stanley Gans
Esta Ray Fritz	Richard Stern
Carol Phillips	Alan Hirsch
Jonathan Oseas	Herbert Kallmann
Dora Joan Millheiser	Lawrence Phillips
Sally Liberman	Justin Greenberg
Patricia Wolf	Robert Greenstein

BAR-M BOYS HOLD MOCK TRIAL

A mock trial, presided over by Judge Bob Shackne and replete with overruled objections, featured the latest meeting of the Bar-M Boys. Norman Siegel, aided by Alan Oppenheim conducted the defense of Bob Prensky who was charged with robbing Michael Kaplan's jewelry store. Abe Chusid and Justin Greenberg, prosecuting attorneys, almost came to blows in deciding what questions to ask a series of perjuring witnesses. The next get-together will take place on February 10th when indoor games will be held.

COTERIES TO CONDUCT SABBATH EVE SERVICE

Jewish Flag Will Be Donated; Junior Group Has Gala Social

Coterie Night will be observed on Friday evening, February 9th, when the three Coterie groups will join forces in conducting services. The occasion will be featured by the presentation of a Jewish flag to the Temple.

In place of a formal sermon, four young people will interpret the gift. Louis Heller will speak on "Zionism and Americanism" while Phyllis Sack, Andrew Arkin and Jerome Horowitz will discuss "What Palestine Expects from American Jewish Youth."

Following the service, the Coteries will act as hosts at the Oneg Shabbat and, as part of their program, will present some Palestinian folk dances. Judith Klenert, Irene Pierce, Myron Mendel and Irwin Ginsberg are on the Arranging Committee of which Dorothy Dattner is Chairman.

Successful Leap Year Party

Mr. Mickey Goldberg was popularly acclaimed as the best dressed "girl" at a leap year party held by the Junior Coteries in the vestry rooms on January 21st. Louis Zeller, appearing unusually buxom, apparently took full advantage of the occasion which was featured by girls wearing their boyfriends' Sunday suits and the boys sporting the pick of their sisters' wardrobes.

An amateur hour was also on the program and Barbara Robinson's proposal to Freddy Cohen was judged the winning performance.

YFL BROADENS ACTIVITIES

The Young Folks League has taken an active interest in the activities of similar organizations, both local and national. Mr. Joseph J. Oppenheimer is being sponsored by the group for the First Vice-Presidency of the Manhattan regional chapter of the central organization of Young Peoples Leagues of the United Synagogues of America.